

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 8 and 9 without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter. Please amend Claims 1-3, 10, and 11, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An excitation coil unit for use in an image heating apparatus, comprising:

a coil formed of a conductor whose conductive portions not covered with an insulating tube are removed ~~including a conductor without an insulation covering~~; and

a heat-resistant insulating material which is inserted between the conductive portions of said conductor forming said coil and covers a substantial portion of said coil,

wherein said heat-resistant insulating material contacts the conductive portions of said coil ~~covering said coil~~.

2. (Currently Amended) An excitation coil unit according to claim 1, further comprising an insulating spacer mounted on said coil, wherein the insulating spacer prevents contacting the conductive portions ~~parts of the conductor~~ ~~conductors~~ in said coil mutually.

3. (Currently Amended) An excitation coil unit according to claim 1, wherein said heat-resistant insulating material is made by being poured between conductive portions of said conductor and around said coil and then hardened.

4. (Original) An excitation coil unit according to claim 3,
wherein said heat-resistant insulating material is a resinous material.
5. (Original) An excitation coil unit according to claim 3,
wherein said heat-resistant insulating material is a glass.
6. (Original) An excitation coil unit according to claim 3,
further comprising a holder which accommodates said coil and is integrated by
said heat-resistant insulating material.
7. (Original) An excitation coil unit according to claim 1,
wherein said coil is obtained by press working a metal plate.
- 8-9. (Cancelled)
10. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus comprising:
a conductive rotatable member; and
an excitation coil unit for generating a magnetic field to induce an eddy current
in said conductive rotatable member,
wherein said excitation coil unit includes: ~~a coil formed with a conductor
without an insulation covering and said coil is covered by a heat-resistant insulating material.~~

a coil formed of a conductor whose conductive portions not covered with an insulating tube are removed; and

a heat-resistant insulating material which is inserted between the conductive portions of said conductor forming said coil and covers a substantial portion of said coil,

wherein said heat-resistant insulating material contacts the conductive portions of said coil.

11. (Currently Amended)) An image heating apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein said excitation coil unit includes an insulating spacer mounted on said coil, wherein said insulating spacer prevents contacting the conductive portions of the conductor ~~parts of the conductors~~ in said coil mutually.

12. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein said heat-resistant insulating material is made by being poured between conductive portions of said conductor and around said coil and then hardened.

13. (Original) An image heating apparatus according to claim 12,
wherein said heat-resistant insulating material is a resinous material.

14. (Original) An image heating apparatus according to claim 12,
wherein said heat-resistant insulating material is a glass.

15. (Original) An image heating apparatus according to claim 12,
wherein said excitation coil unit includes a holder which accommodates said
coil and is integrated by said heat-resistant insulating material.

16. (Original) An image heating apparatus according to claim 10,
wherein said coil is obtained by press working a metal plate.